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MARGINAL COLUMN

By GEORGE LEONOF

AFTER weeks of marking time, the three-member "Atomic Club" discussing prohibition of nuclear tests in Geneva has suddenly decided to make the first steps in the same direction. This has been hailed as a "history-making" move, just what sort of history has been made is not quite clear. The inevitability of some kind of agreement to ban nuclear testing and subsequently to outlaw nuclear weapons — became obvious from the time that an approximate parity in atomic weapons was achieved by the two world blocs. This not only created a balance of power; it permitted scientists to give full voice to warnings on the effects that increasing atomic activity would have on mankind without fear of exposing themselves to charges of sabotage or treason. This was the point at which history was made.

THE major difference between East and West at the current talks in Geneva was of priority rather than substance. The Russians demanded first an outright declaration that testing would be stopped, and only then would they agree to discuss the details of a control system. America and Britain insisted that the conference must first examine in detail the technical provisions of control. When these were agreed upon, in the view of the West, they should form an integral part of the contract to suspend testing. The Russians, however, apparently accepted this view. Why it should have taken the Soviet Union so long to agree on procedure which does not prejudice its security in any way can only be explained by an unexplained lack of trust — a commodity with which the Russians came to Geneva as poorly equipped as the Western delegates. The West has made no secret of its fears that if it were lured by the Russians into an agreement to discontinue tests, Moscow could then take as long as it pleased about reaching agreement on control machinery. As for the Russians, the only point on which they were candid was their suspicion that the West was conspiring to draw them into an inescapable situation of supervisory techniques which would indefinitely postpone agreement to stop tests. Just which of the two nations decided, and at what stage, to stop circling the Geneva conference table and sit down to business is not likely ever to be proved to anyone's satisfaction.

THE prospects of three-power agreement on suspension of tests, in fact, have never been painted. This is because it is to the obvious advantage of all three to agree on unilateral prohibition of nuclear experimentation before other nations begin knocking at the door of their exclusive club. But agreement on the logical second stage — of outlawing the weapons themselves — is far more remote. Many statesmen have agreed it would be a good thing if conditions were such that the weapons could be scrapped. None, either in East or West, has as yet stated that the world has approached such a stage near such conditions. Neither America nor Russia is likely to forgo the "great deterrent" until both are mutually assured that the other means of waging non-atomic warfare does not surpass its own. And as for reduction of "conventional" armaments, this problem has never been satisfactorily solved since the first troglodytes began accumulating flint arrow-heads to keep the clan on the opposite slope of the mountain. Once the so-called weapons of mass destruction are no longer an immediate threat, it will become more obviously important that the real need is to reduce the disputes that nations can fight over the weapons they can fight with.

2,000-mile Snow Belt Lies Across U.S.

NEW YORK (Reuters). — A belt of snow 2,000 miles long lay across the northern U.S. on Tuesday reaching a record depth of five feet in Oswego, western New York State, where 35 inches fell in 24 hours blocking all roads. The snow belt extended as far west as Montana and Wyoming, where up to 14 inches fell Tuesday, Sunday, and Chicago traffic was slowed by six inches of slush. Fog, meanwhile, shrouded southern California from Santa Barbara to San Diego.

Big Freeze-Up Hits U.K. As Fog Clears

LONDON (Reuters). — The first big freeze-up this winter hit Britain on Tuesday with three-quarters of all roads covered with ice. On Monday the country was declared free from fog for the first time for a month — the longest period of fog recorded this century.

14 TURKS DIE IN LANDSLIDE

ISTANBUL (Reuters). — Fourteen persons were killed when a landslide following heavy rain sent huge rocks crashing on three houses in the Central Turkish village of Setkiler, it was learned in Istanbul on Monday.

Persia Prohibits Travel to Iraq

TEHERAN (UPI). — The Government of Iran on Tuesday stopped issuing permits for travel into Iraq. The action followed the recent surge of anti-Iran propaganda over Baghdad Radio and in other Iraqi Government organs. It reflected the strained relations between the two countries, believed near the rupture point.

Iraq stands to lose at least \$12m. annually from the 100,000 pilgrims who go to Iraq from Iran.

Iran recently issued a strong diplomatic protest to Iraq over what it called Iraqi connivance with fugitive Iranian Communist leaders who arrived from Iran in certain countries and began plotting the overthrow of the Iranian Government for its announced decision to sign a defence pact with the U.S.

The Majlis Lower House of Parliament, was in an uproar on Tuesday as Deputies demanded a showdown with Iraq and "fundamental steps" for ending Iraqi "blackmail."

Last U.N. Observers Leave Lebanon

BEIRUT (UPI). — The last of the U.N. military observers who were sent to Lebanon during the rebellion last summer left on Tuesday night when 20 Danes, the last of 501 observers from 21 nations, boarded a plane for Copenhagen.

Serov Ouster May Mean Softer Rule

LONDON. — Western diplomats said on Tuesday they believed General Ivan Serov's sudden departure as chief of the Soviet Secret Police might herald a major show of "reforms" in the Soviet Union. There were suggestions that he may have become too powerful for the liking — of Premier Khrushchev, but it was also said that he may merely have been switched to another top administrative post.

There was no official Moscow word. The chief of the State Security Commission, said Serov had been "released from his duties as Chairman of the Committee for State Security attached to the USSR Council of Ministers in connection with his taking up other work."

Mr. Khrushchev told U.S. Senator Hubert Humphrey in Moscow just a week ago: "Come and see how we do it. You will see it is not less policeman around." Mr. Khrushchev added: "We don't have liquidations any more." (UPI, Reuters)

Humphrey Reports On Soviet Rockets

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — Senator Hubert Humphrey told President Eisenhower on Tuesday about Soviet claims to have developed new types of rocket weapons.

Speaking to reporters after a 100-minute conference at the White House, the Senator said he had also given the President a report of what Premier Khrushchev had told him in Moscow concerning Soviet views on the Berlin problem and the suspension of nuclear tests.

Senator Humphrey, a leading Democratic member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, had an eight-hour interview last week with Mr. Khrushchev.

He declined under persistent questioning to specify what kinds of new missiles the Soviet Union claimed to have developed. But he said: "Mr. Khrushchev regards them as significant — but they are not so significant as he thinks."

The Senator also said he had conveyed to the President certain information given him by Mr. Khrushchev on nuclear explosions — presumably Soviet atomic tests. "I am not at liberty to discuss anything more about them," Senator Humphrey added.

Chaban-Delmas Heads France's New Assembly

PARIS (Reuters). — The Gaullist leader, M. Jacques Chaban-Delmas, was on Tuesday elected President (Speaker) of the first Parliamentary Assembly of the Fifth Republic.

He received 256 votes on the second ballot while the Socialist Max Lejeune got 132. When the session opened, the Assembly gave a standing ovation to General de Gaulle as he entered the crowded Chamber.

More than 800 Deputies applauded him for several minutes and gave him another round when he shook hands with the oldest Member, Canon Felix Klr, 82, who occupied the Speaker's chair.

Canon Klr, in his opening speech, said: "In the name of all of you, I salute the Prime Minister, General de Gaulle, who has once more brought France a solution and a hope."

He assured the General of the Assembly's support "through a coherent majority and a constructive programme of national renovation and social progress."

Immediately after the Canon's speech, General de Gaulle left the Chamber and voting started for the election of a Speaker who will preside for the whole five years of the Assembly.

Apart from M. Chaban-Delmas and M. Lejeune, there were two other candidates: veteran statesman Paul Reynaud (Conservative) and M. Fernand Grenier (Communist).

Peres Conferences With French Leaders

PARIS (INA). — Mr. Shimon Peres, Director-General of the Israel Defence Ministry, was on Tuesday in Paris for talks with French leaders. He was accompanied by Mr. Yehoshua Herta, leader of the majority UNR Gaullist party. They discussed Franco-Israeli cooperation. In the afternoon Mr. Peres conferred for an hour with Socialist leader Guy Mollet, before departing for New York where he is to address the national conference of the UJA on Friday.

In an interview with a local Jewish paper published on Tuesday, Mr. Herta said his party would support French policy in the Middle East which is based on understanding and sympathy for Israel's problems and close cooperation with her as well as with the struggle against pan-Arabism.

It must not be forgotten, however, he added, "that pan-Arabism should not be confused with the natural aspirations of Moslem countries."

"It is only by maintaining a just equilibrium between Israel and the Arab countries that we can have the possibility of a peaceful development which ought finally to bring about a stable peace in the Middle East."

M. Soustelle continued that the question of an alliance with Israel, certainly brought up when we formulate our foreign policy. He noted that several other leaders of the UNR, including Michel Debre, Chaban-Delmas (newly elected President of the National Assembly) and Edmond Michelet, are members of the French Committee for a Franco-Israeli Alliance.

The party's leader declared that a "true Gaullist can be neither anti-Semitic nor racist. He must be aware of the fact that right-wing anti-Semitic elements had found a place within the UNR."

UK Paratroops Hunt Penang Terrorists

PENANG, North Malaya (Reuters). — British paratroops dropped into Penang on Tuesday in a new move against 35 Communist terrorists still at large on this island eight kilometres off the North Malayan coast.

Seventy-eight men from the 22nd Special Air Service Regiment landed on the Penang Airfield and helicopters and trucks immediately moved them in the jungle. Early in the morning, equipped with loudspeakers flew low over suspected terrorist haunts urging the Communists to give themselves up.

Knesset Defeats Bid For Constituency Elections

Ben-Gurion Urges 58 Against: 42 + 11 For

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN, Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

At 12.35 on Wednesday morning, the Knesset rejected the bill of Mr. Yosef Almog (Ispal) and Mr. Yosef Serlin (General Zionists), calling for a referendum to change the election system.

Mapai and the General Zionists abstained on one another's bills. All other parties voted against both.

The vote on the Almog Bill was 58-42. The vote on the Serlin Bill was 58-11, and after the votes Mr. Almog made a brief statement that the vote should be regarded as 58 against the proposed reform to 53 in favour.

On the other hand, the bill of Mr. Nahum Nir (Abdud Ha'avoda) which would make it more difficult to amend the Basic Law, was passed to the Law Committee by a vote of 58-53. It was supported by all parties except Mapai and the General Zionists.

Mr. Almog and Mr. Serlin both requested the Chair to combine the vote on both bills, in which case they announced they would vote for one another's bill. But Deputy Speaker Bebe Idelson announced that the President had decided that the bills be voted on separately.

More than 100 of the 120-man House were in their seats when the session was called to order. Some of them had returned from abroad especially in order to cast their vote on this question.

The first speaker was Mr. Yosef Almog (Mapai), who presented his bill calling for a national referendum on the question of whether the Knesset should be elected by the constituency system, with 120 single-member districts. Mr. Almog was heckled repeatedly, but remained unruffled.

Noting that 13 party lists were represented in the Third Knesset, Mr. Almog charged that it was not different ideologies but the desire for self-interest that was behind the opposition to constituency elections. Proportional representation leads to extortion on the part of small parties, and the submission of the majority to the minority as the price of stable government, he said.

Mr. Nahum Nir (Abdud Ha'avoda) then was given the floor to present his bill. This would require that any bill whose real or implied purpose is to change or circumvent any constitutional provision must propose this explicitly.

Ten months ago, when the House debated the Basic Law (the Knesset), it had voted for a motion making provision for referendum. Mr. Nir said. If the Knesset respected itself and the Basic Law, it would have to amend the latter to make provision for referendums and amend Section 4 which provides that the Knesset shall be elected by proportional representation, this provision being amendable only by a majority of M.K.s.

G.Z. Plan — Mr. Yosef Serlin (General Zionists), then presented his motion for a combination of proportional and constituency elections. His bill calls for 30

three-member districts which would vote by proportional representation, the remaining 30 mandates would be filled from national lists on the basis of surplus votes in the districts.

At present, Mr. Serlin said, we have not one Opposition, but many opposition parties. Nor do we have a stable Government, with a concrete programme. There is in fact no collective responsibility. Since the Knesset is almost evenly divided on the question of the election system, it was proper to go directly to the people. His bill, unlike Mr. Almog's, did not jump from one extreme to the other, he said.

After the three members had proposed their bills, the special six-hour debate on which the House Committee had decided earlier in the day began. Ordinarily a private member is given 10 minutes in which to explain his bill, and such a restriction is limited to brief statements explaining its stand. The vote in the Committee was 58-11, with Mapai and its affiliated Arab parties voting against the bill, and all the other parties opposing it.

Herut Opposition — Dr. Yohanan Bader (Herut) said that maybe in England, as M.P. represented his district. Here he would represent only his own supporters; the rest of his district would be unrepresented. Proportional representation gives small parties a chance to be heard, he said. The referendum bill was a simple Mapai tactic to divert the people's minds from important economic and political issues.

Dr. I. S. Rosenberg (National Religious) asserted that district elections mean minority rule. He gave examples from England and the U.S. to show that the party with fewer votes can win more seats. If the candidate would have to be a resident of his district, then what would happen if there were three exceptionally qualified men living in, say, Sarona? Would they be able to contact with the electorate?

Left-Wing Against — Mr. Yitzhak Ben-Aharon (Abdud Ha'avoda) charged that Mapai's only aim was to become the sole Government party and to establish the General Zionists as the sole opposition party.

Calling constituency elections a "distortion of democracy," Mr. Yacov Hazan (Mapai) said that Mr. Ben-Gurion had insulted the members of his own party by saying that they owed their election to two or three top names on the party list. Under constituency elections, provincial pressure groups would replace the alignment of real political issues.

Workers' Representatives of Ketter Textile Products, Inc.

"The Histadrut is trying to compel us to join against our will"

We the undersigned are the elected representatives of all workers of Ketter Textile Products, Inc. Ramat Gan. We hereby wish to bring the following to the notice of the general public, in order that it may form its own opinion of the situation.

About one hundred workers are employed by the above enterprise. In the past few years relations between management and employees have been mutually satisfactory. Employees have enjoyed conditions similar to those granted all workers in similar establishments in Israel, including those enterprises employing Histadrut labour. We have never felt the need to join a labour federation.

Some days ago the Ramat Gan Labour Council, affiliated to the Histadrut, stationed pickets near the factory premises in order to stop work there and compel the employees to organize within the Histadrut, and compel the management of the enterprise to sign a labour contract with the Histadrut.

The strike was organized against the will of the employees of the enterprise, and without their being consulted in any way. Workers who tried to enter the premises were prevented from doing so by the pickets who used force.

Women employees who tried to enter the premises were forcibly dragged into taxis and driven away to prevent them from entering the factory.

We hereby appeal to public opinion to use its weight against the employment of such methods, and to all parties able to prevent the use of violence to intervene in order to prevent the recurrence of such acts.

We wish to be left to work without interference and without the exercise of any pressure on us. Should we think fit to join a labour federation we shall do so on our own initiative, and shall then join any federation we see fit. We have, in this connection, held two meetings, one with representatives of the General Federation of Labour (Histadrut ha'Odim ha'Klali) and another with representatives of the National Federation of Labour (Histadrut ha'Odim ha'Leumi) on December 7, 1954. Further meetings are scheduled for this week.

Workers' Representatives of Ketter Textile Products, Inc.

Spicy Sauce — Table Novelty for Israel

HAIFA. — A cosmopolitan flavour has been imported to Israeli dinner dishes with the introduction of Chinese soy sauce by the TELMA Works in Haifa.

The first recipe for the preparation of soy sauce is contained in a book on the ceremonial rites of the Chao Dynasty of China, written 1,000 B.C. — almost 2,000 years ago. The Emperor's cook used no less than 120 jars of different sauces, soy among them.

In the present century, the art of preparing the spicy, stimulating soy sauce has been taken over by modern food technology in Japan, U.S.A. and Europe, where this condiment is being made and consumed in growing quantities.

While the popularization of the potato (brought from America) in Europe took about 300 years, soy sauce has had an almost immediate success because of its tasty appeal to the palate. "Soy sauce is to food what wit is to table talk," a Frenchman has said. (Communicated)

AFTER MIDNIGHT

Ghana's Premier Nkrumah is to leave Accra on December 28 for a fortnight's official visit to India.

America's Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East Affairs, Mr. William Rountree, is due in the ceremonial rites of the Chao Dynasty on the second leg of his two-week tour of the Middle East.

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Reinforcement of the left-of-centre Democratic Action Party, held an apparently insignificant lead over Larrasabal in nearly-complete unofficial returns. However, there have been no claims of victory or defeat as yet.

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Pan-Africanism Sought at Accra

Newly-Freed Territories Examining Positions

From Our Ghana Correspondent

ACCRA. — THERE may be some significance in the fact that able-bodied delegations from the French territories are in Accra for the All-African People's Conference. The response to the invitation of the Conference Committee is testing the resources of the host city in providing accommodation. There are at least 500 delegates from nationalist and trade union organizations throughout the Continent, including fraternal delegates and observers from youth, women's cultural, chieftain, peace and many other types of organizations, both African, European and American.

Even among the territories in French Africa which voted in favour of the de Gaulle Constitution, there is a strong feeling against the breaking up of the former French Empire. The Federation of West and Equatorial Africa, as championed by Houphouët Boigny of the Ivory Coast, leader of the Rassemblement Démocratique Africain (R.D.A.), and a growing campaign in favour of a new regrouping of the territories. Hence the move towards some kind of union made by Ghana, Guinea, the only territory to vote against the de Gaulle Constitution, and the promise of a new union, are already having their effect upon political thinking in French Africa, where the rewards of voting Yea at the referendum are still awaited.

It is becoming daily evident that the Ghana-Guinea association is going to make it rather difficult for General de Gaulle to cement his African Community. On the other hand, the Yea vote was a vote for independence, which they had been assured it was.

The idea of Pan-Africanism is not a late growth, nor does it have its inspiration in Communist penetration. In fact, while there is a certain respect for the Soviet Union simply because it does not practice racialism based on colour, there is no great absorption of Marxist ideas.

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In Africa. Naturally, some young intellectuals who have been wooed by Communists while pursuing their studies in Europe have come back with some rather woolly notions about the application of Stalinist theories to the colonial scene. But since the facts of life on the spot differ radically from the dogmatic classification of social strata laid down by the Communists, they are forced, if they wish to play any real part in the national struggle, to swim with the main stream, which runs toward national independence and the ocean of Pan-Africanism.

West Indian's Idea
Oddly enough, the idea of a Pan-African movement was conceived not by an African but by a West Indian, a Mr. Henry Sylvester-Williams of Trinidad, who took the initiative in convening the Pan-African Conference in London in 1900. A practitioner at the English Bar, Mr. Sylvester-Williams was conceived to dramatize protest against the workings of colonialism and to appeal for protection of the Africans against its deprivations.

After his return to the West Indies and his death there, the idea of Pan-Africanism lay dormant until it was revived by Dr. William E. Burghardt DuBois of America after the First World War. Dr. DuBois, who has come to be known as the Father of Pan-Africanism, was energetic in pursuing the idea, and it was owing to his persistence and perseverance that four Congresses took place between the First and Second World Wars.

The most representative of the Pan-African Congresses, however, was held in Manchester in 1945, which was attended by a number of Africans directly delegated by political and trade union organizations on the African Continent. The Congress secretaries were George Padmore and Kwame Nkrumah, while Mr. Jomo Kenyatta, now serving out a term of imprisonment in Kenya on a political indictment, was assistant secretary. It was at the 1945 Congress that the programme of action was laid down for the different territories, in accordance with their local circumstances.

The programme of action which was set for West Africa was followed by the Convention People's Party and brought it to power in the Gold Coast under the leadership of Kwame Nkrumah.

NATURE NOTES
Weather Ruins First Blooms

THE drought and the sharp drop in temperature have had a serious impact on the wild-flowers. The narcissi have partly come out in spite of everything, as they grow in very moist places. But they are not yet in full bloom. The tulips, which are picking up, so to speak, after the heavy rain of the 10th, are still in the bud. The bluebell (*Scilla hyacinthoides*) — *Ben khatav yankinton*, which comes only from February onwards.

We can only hope that by the time the anemones are due, at the end of December, this unseasonable weather will have given way to normal rains. And Central Europe is still swathed in mist and rainclouds up to the very tops of the Alps!

Musical Diary
30 years ago when this writer first heard it performed, it only can be regretted that this composer's latest works deviate so much from that impulsive and healthy style that "war" his in the earlier years.

Moving Hazanot
Concert of Cantorial Music by Leib Glantz, assisted by Arish Zacks, harmonium, and a Male Voice Sextet directed by Yehoshua Zohar (Heichal Shalom, Jerusalem, December 7).

TO mark the opening of the First Convention for Liturgical Music, held in Jerusalem at the beginning of the week under the auspices of the Institute for Religious Music, the well-known Cantor Leib Glantz gave a recital of his settings of prayers. His voice possesses a great range of dynamics and expression and never falls into the pitfalls of showy coloraturas and other characteristics of certain exhibitionistic *hazzanim*. His music is steeped deeply in the tra-

dition of Eastern European Jewry, and his musical personality expresses itself in tasteful interpretations. The harmonium added little to the rendition. Since it did not have an appreciable range of registers, it should have been omitted altogether. The accompanying society suffered from flat intonation, but Yehoshua Zohar proved an efficient conductor.

Mr. Glantz animated his audience into active participation with the rendition of some Hassidic tunes where his enthusiastic listeners joined in singing the choruses. The Hall at Heichal Shalom has a very pleasant, congenial atmosphere, the acoustics are highly satisfactory, the seating the most comfortable of any hall in Israel at present.

Y. BOEHM

Butter Price and Quality Queried

Editor, The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — A special effort is being made these days to foster the sale of locally-produced butter. "Tuva" is going to considerable expense to publish daily press advertisements which offer the produce at the decreased rate of 11A per kilogramme.

Last year, before the arrival of the new settlers, the price of butter fetched up to 11A-10, and the butter was mixed in the original Tuva packing, with an unpalatable and obnoxious greasy substance, hardly fit for consumption.

Before, according to Tuva's relentless pressure to stop further imports from the U.S., the Tuva industry could do well to devise some adequate means for curbing apparent profiteering in future.

The citizen, who is at the receiving end of the butter, is reduced to the consumption of cheap and unadulterated American butter. By the way, a very serious cross-section of the population can afford the luxury of Tuva.

Tuva can in no way be responsible for the butter which its products are sold wholesale, as it does not have the legal authority to supervise the wholesale trade and cannot set the wholesale price.

Good Quality
Tuva butter is famous for its high quality and it is to be regretted that your correspondent cites a case of the sale of inferior butter which happened months ago — something which there is no possibility of checking now. The fact that the sale of inferior butter remained constant despite the sale of large quantities of American butter at "dumping" prices, last year, shows the regard of the consumer public for this high quality Tuva product.

Your correspondent advises that the sale of American butter should be continued, without apparently asking himself what will be the fate of agriculture in our country if foreign produce pushes local produce off a market which is after all its natural outlet.

Yours, etc.
TNUVA-Central Coop. for the Marketing of Agricultural Products in Israel Ltd.
Tel Aviv, November 20.

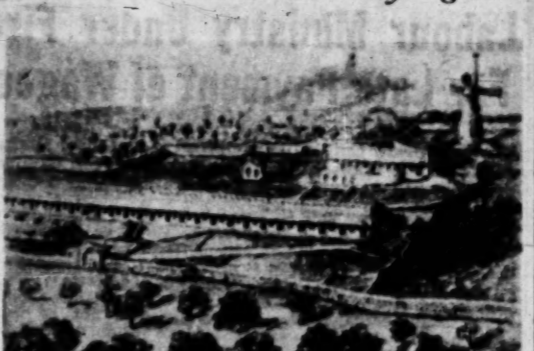
YOUTH FORUM
Editor, The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — In his report on the "New York Times Youth Forum" on November 21, your correspondent said that one of the participants in the panel was a Mr. Bertram Cohen, "who had visited Israel" and who "showed himself well-informed on the problems of Israel-Arab relations."

Bertram Cohen is well informed as he is President of the Student Zionist Organization.

Yours, etc.
GIL KOLLIN
Secretary, Student Zionist Organization of the U.S. and Canada
Israel Liaison Office
Jerusalem, November 21.

PHILIP WILLIAMS
Editor, The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I had many opportunities to witness Philip Williams' human qualities and his kindness. Some years ago I served as Chairman of the Zionist Association in London. Many of our students had chronic financial problems and supplemented their incomes by working during the holidays. Most of them were employed by Marks & Spencer's, on

Yemin Moshe A Century Ago



Quartier Latin for Capital

A stupendous work commenced in this country — thus did James Finn, the British Consul in Jerusalem describe in his diary on January 14, 1888, the windmill then under construction at the expense of the great Anglo-Jewish philanthropist, Sir Moses Montefiore.

It was next to this mill that a year later Montefiore built the first houses of the quarter now known as Yemin Moshe. According to a contemporary drawing, it was then called the "Judah Touro Almshouses" because they were built out of a \$50,000 legacy left by the New Orleans phil-

anthropist, Judah Touro, "for the improvement of the condition of Jews in the Holy Land." Thus it was that his executor, Montefiore, became the father of the new Jerusalem as well as of its industry. (See above).

It would be a boon for Jerusalem if this quarter, in its unique setting, could be transformed from an overcrowded slum into Jerusalem's "Quartier Latin," a centre for arts and crafts such as La Villita in San Antonio, Texas, or the Artists' Quarter in Safed. It would be the finest building present the nation could give its capital on its centenary next year. E.G.

Israel May Grow Own Coffee

Initial Experiments Near Rehovot Successful

By A Special Correspondent

ISRAEL may eventually be able to grow her own coffee, instead of importing it at the present cost of some \$2m. a year, as a result of successful experiments carried out by Dr. Y. Gindel, of the Agricultural Research Station at Rehovot, details of which were released recently.

These experiments, conducted over the last ten years, have proved that it is possible to expand the area of coffee-growing beyond the limits of 23 degrees north and south of the equator to which it has hitherto been confined. Dr. Gindel has grown the plant at a latitude of 32 degrees north and more roughly the latitude of Tel Aviv — and scientists in Turkey, California and South Africa, which have similar climates, have asked him to supply them with information about his new agrotechnical methods.

U.S. Attempts
Efforts to grow coffee in California have been recorded over the last 50 years, and unsuccessful attempts to acclimatise it have been made for centuries by Arab agriculturists in this country. Dr. Gindel ascribes his success to the new "phyto-plastic" theory based on three principles:

1. The phenomena of life depend on their environment; 2. "Plastic" species of plants can change their morphological structure and their metabolism to their environment; 3. By gradual acclimatization, plants change their morphological, physiological and anatomical structure and their physiological processes.

In the course of development, individual plants show a special capacity for adapting themselves to new environments; these plants are then selected for further growing and the selection continues until the most suitable variety is found. This variety can then provide seeds for the acclimated plant which is desired to breed. The plants are protected against strong winds and other difficult climatic conditions by surrounding them with a defensive screen of plants like maize. After five months, the plants can stand up to the climate.

300 Varieties
This theory has been applied in the acclimatization of about 300 varieties of forest and industrial trees, including eucalyptus, oak and casahuate. Dr. Gindel began his experiments with coffee ten years ago by bringing 60 varieties to Israel and planting them at the Agricultural Research station. Twenty-two have been acclimatized — nine of them with particular success. These, as it happens, are the most valuable varieties, including Mocca from Aden, Cattura from Brazil, Bourbon, etc.

After five years, the plants which had acclimatized particularly well, including varieties from Guatemala and Tanganyika, were selected and their seeds again sown. Now an area of 15 dunams at the station of Beit Dagon and Rehovot is covered with tall coffee plants of various varieties, laden with coffee pods, of which each tree produces about a kilogram of pods.

The present yield of beans per dunam is 50 kilograms, but Dr. Gindel believes that much higher crops can be obtained by irrigation, fertilization and further fundamental research. Average yields in Africa are 54 kilograms per dunam, occasionally rising to 100 kgs., while in Brazil the average is 50 kgs., rising in some localities to 100 kgs. and more. The Agricultural Investment Corporation has planted several varieties of coffee.

ACTRESS' RECORD
Sir, — Friends of mine from Austria have written to me expressing their surprise that films in which Paula Wessely appears are permitted here. They inform me that this actress did more, through her "art," for the propagation of anti-Semitism — especially in "Heimkehr," than the most efficient propagandists.

Under these circumstances they are surprised, and even shocked, that Israel should import her films and thus support a very active advocate of the Nazi regime. I was asked for an explanation but could not give any; how do the relevant authorities explain it? Yours, etc. H.N.

(Name and Address Supplied.)
Haifa, December 4.

on an area of 154 dunams near Naan, for the purpose of carrying out intensive experiments into the economic aspect of coffee-growing in this country. Several years will be required, however, before conclusions can be drawn. The Corporation has also sold about 10,000 coffee seedlings, at nominal prices, to individual farmers all over the country to afford them initial experience in raising the crop.

It appears that the cultivation of the coffee plant is about 20 per cent more expensive than that of citrus, but Dr. Gindel believes that the costs can be reduced and the yield increased by further research.

The coffee which is now imported is not of the highest quality and costs about as much as the fine varieties which have now been grown here.

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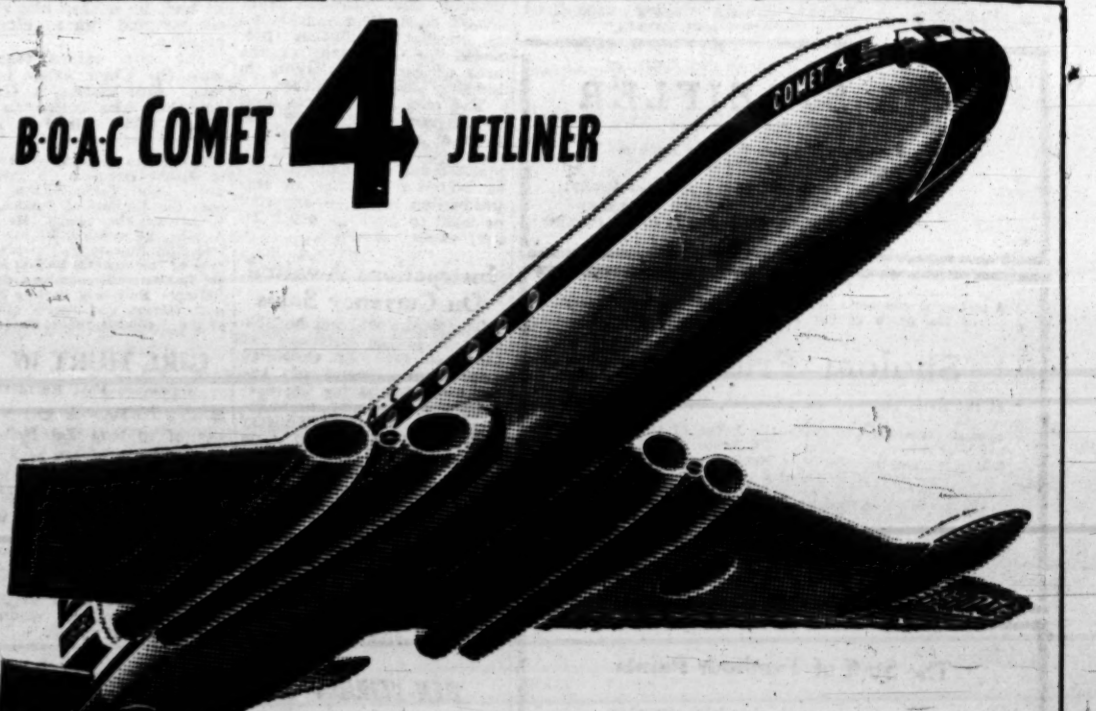
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